



The International Fancy Guppy Association



Dedicated to Promoting The Fancy Guppy Hobby

"All content and images on this site are for the exclusive use of the IFGA and IFGA Members and are protected under the copyright law. It is not for use without express written permission."

HOME	MEMBERSHIP	SHOWS	OFFICERS	CLUBS	INFORMATION	BREEDERS	CONTACT	MEMBERS SECTION
------	------------	-------	----------	-------	-------------	----------	---------	-----------------

A Feeding Test

By Dr. E. C. Larr

Reprinted from GUPPY ROUNDTABLE, March, 1971

One of the big things that shows up time and time again is the ability to raise show type guppies....I mean hereby really high-point fish. A very important factor in all this is feeding. I'll explain what we set up and what we found out.

We took a strain of red delta-tail show guppies. All of the brothers from this particular line would certainly be very high pointed show fish. Some were superb.

The fry were split up. One tank of test fry were fed the standard way I feed...three times a day...the standard feeding regime being something like this:

- | | | |
|----------|-------------|---|
| 1st day: | 1st feeding | newly hatched brine shrimp |
| | 2nd feeding | Golden State Guppy Food |
| | 3rd feeding | beef heart |
| 2nd day: | 1st feeding | newly hatched brine shrimp |
| | 2nd feeding | combination of Tetramin and Biorell flake foods |
| | 3rd feeding | chopped earthworms |

Continue to repeat 1st and 2nd days alternately.

When feeding the flake food combination, it is crushed up very, very fine and passed through a fine sieve (like a tea strainer). The main point being to get the flakes small enough so the young fish can handle them easily and not have to wait until the flake itself has become soggy enough for their jaws to tear apart and to feed on. The beef heart was simply run through a blender, mixed with gelatin to hold it together and fed in that way. The chopped earthworms the same way...chopped in a blender and some gelatin added to it for firming. Sometimes the gelatin was omitted and the finely chopped earthworms simply fed as such. I could find no measurable difference between the mixing of gelatin with the earthworms and without it.

The most startling results from these fish whose parents were show fish was that we had an enormous predominance of veil tail types - --with caudal spreads less than 60 degrees. Remember now that the parents were high point, very fine deltas with tails beyond 60 degrees by a big measure.

The other half of these test fry were fed eight times a day. This was a constant thing and they were fed all the time. They were fed the following diet and in rotation as givens

- | | | | |
|------|----------------------------|------|----------------------------|
| 1st: | newly hatched brine shrimp | 5th: | Biorell |
| 2nd: | Golden State Guppy Food | 6th: | chopped earthworms |
| 3rd: | beef heart | 7th: | Tetramin |
| 4th: | newly hatched brine shrimp | 8th: | newly hatched brine shrimp |

Now this is against my concept of force feeding guppies, but, as you know a guppy's digestive process is such that most foods pass through its digestive system in 25 to 30 minutes, so we simply divided up the twelve hour day and fed this kind of a diet everyday.

The results were startling...from these baby fish we had our show quality fish. We had wide deltas...we had robust, large-size fish with essentially no veil tails among them at all.

It is an interesting thing to give some thought to. If you're going to raise large show quality fish to compete with today's standards, they are simply going to have to be fed a big variety of foods and they are going to have to be fed often.

We took just one more step. From the fry that were raised on the feedings of three times a day...after these had reached maturity... we got a batch of young. These were then fed on the cycle of eight feedings a day (just as our second test tank had been fed).

The results were that they were all fine quality show fish. So even though the parents looked like veil tails, they still carried the genetics of the fine, big delta, and as soon as the feeding program was increased this became obvious immediately.

So here is the kind of thing you might like to give some thought to...give it a try, set aside some fish from a good strain and really pour



The International Fancy Guppy Association



Dedicated to Promoting The Fancy Guppy Hobby

"All content and images on this site are for the exclusive use of the IFGA and IFGA Members and are protected under the copyright law. It is not for use without express written permission."

HOME	MEMBERSHIP	SHOWS	OFFICERS	CLUBS	INFORMATION	BREEDERS	CONTACT	MEMBERS SECTION
------	------------	-------	----------	-------	-------------	----------	---------	-----------------

Filtration

© 2017 The International Fancy Guppy Association
All images present on this site have been donated to the IFGA for use and are protected under the copyright law.
They are not for use without express written permission.
Thank you Bryan Chin, Gene Baudier, Jay Crane, Luke Roebuck and Stan Shubel for their photo donations.

© Copyright to IFGA2017